

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP2004/003699 filed April 7, 2004**

Please replace the heading on page 46, line 1, with the following amended heading:

**~~CLAIMS~~ WE CLAIM:**

Please add new page, 48, submitted herewith containing the Abstract of the Disclosure.

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (new): A cosmetic composition comprising: at least one poly- $\alpha$ -olefin produced by a dehydrating polymerization at 60°C to 340°C, in the presence of acidic alumino layer silicates, of at least one primary alcohol selected from the group consisting of

- a) unsaturated monofunctional alcohols;
- b) branched monofunctional alcohols; and
- c) difunctional alcohols.

Claim 13 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the primary alcohol contains 6 to 72 carbon atoms.

Claim 14 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having

- b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,
- b2) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the alkyl chain and
- b3) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the  $\alpha$ -position to the terminal CH<sub>2</sub>OH group.

Claim 15 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein, the cosmetic composition comprises a Guerbet alcohol.

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Claim 16 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.

Claim 17 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and the poly- $\alpha$ -olefin is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

Claim 18 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

Claim 19 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising 1 to 50% by weight of oil components.

Claim 20 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein, the percentage content of the at least one poly- $\alpha$ -olefin is from 0.1% to 100% by weight based on the total quantity of oil components.

Claim 21 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising 0.1% to 20% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.

Claim 22 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein, the group b) alcohol comprises at least one alcohol selected from the group consisting of branched alcohols having

- b1) at least one methyl branch in the alkyl chain,
- b2) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the alkyl chain and
- b3) a C<sub>2-18</sub> branch in the  $\alpha$ -position to the terminal CH<sub>2</sub>OH group.

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Claim 23 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein, b1) has from 1 to 6 methyl branches in the alkyl chain.

Claim 24 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein, the group a) alcohol comprises a linear alcohol.

Claim 25 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein, the alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and the poly- $\alpha$ -olefin is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

Claim 26 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein, the alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and the poly- $\alpha$ -olefin is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

Claim 27 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein, the alcohol comprises a member selected from group b) or c) and the poly- $\alpha$ -olefin is hydrogenated after the dehydrating polymerization.

Claim 28 (new): The cosmetic composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein, the composition is a member selected from the group consisting of a w/o or o/w emulsion.

Claim 29 (new): The cosmetic composition of claim 12 containing from 5% to 40% by weight of oil components.

Claim 30 (new): The cosmetic composition of claim 29 containing from 5% to 25% by weight of oil components.

Claim 31 (new): The cosmetic composition of claim 20 comprising from 1% to

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50% by weight of the oil components of the at least one poly- $\alpha$ -olefin.

Claim 32 (new): The cosmetic composition of claim 21 comprising from 1% to 15% by weight of a surface-active substance or a mixture of surface-active substances.